



Town of Concord, Massachusetts
22 Monument Square, Concord, MA 01742

West Concord Advisory Committee Minutes 01-06-16

<p>Pursuant to notice duly filed with the Town Clerk, a meeting of the West Concord Advisory Committee (WCAC) was held at 7:30 p.m. in the Clock Tower Room at the Harvey Wheeler Community Center.</p> <p>WCAC members present were Carlene Hempel, chair; Jeff Collins, Peter Baty, Steve Irza, Mike Nowicki, Kathryn Garcia, Betsy Higgins, and Don Detweiler. Also present was Planning Board representative Matt Johnson and several members of the public. Members absent were: Pamela Talbot and Burton Flint.</p>	
<p>The Meeting was called to order at 7:37PM.</p>	<p>Call to order</p>
<p>MINUTES</p>	<p>Minutes</p>
<p>Minutes from the previous meeting on December 2, 2015 were accepted by the Committee</p>	
<p>AGENDA</p>	<p>Agenda</p>
<p>Upon a Motion duly made and Seconded, the Committee UNANIMOUSLY</p>	
<p>VOTED: to approve the Agenda, as amended.</p>	
<p></p>	
<p>LIAISON UPDATES</p>	<p>Liaisons</p>
<p>Carlene Hempel - Town Manager's Office (Chris Whelan):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No updates for this month. 	
<p>Steve Irza - Planning Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Planning Board endorsed the proposed Floor Area Ratio (FAR) bylaw, which would help to cap cases of the most egregious mansionization in Concord. Mr. Irza also reported on the current status of a potential pedestrian footbridge to cross the Assabet River in West Concord. Requests for proposals (RFP) for a feasibility study (FS) is hoped to be issued in February, with responses due back to the Town in March. The FS would likely include developing a preferable primary and two alternative locations for a bridge, the advantages and impediments with each location, potential bridge designs, and an estimate on the design, permitting and construction costs. <p>Peter Baty - Building Department (John Minty – Building Commissioner)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No new developments or permit applications of interest this month for West Concord 	
<p>Jeff Collins – Public Works</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analysis of the train crossing intersection on Commonwealth to improve public safety is nearly complete. An update should be available within a few weeks. <p>Betsy Higgins – Natural Resources Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No updates for this month. 	

<p>Kathryn Garcia – Concord Housing Development Corporation (Barbara Morse – Co-Chair)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The CHDC is continues to move forward on the Winthrop Street property project; working on a land lease agreement, talking with the Department of Housing and Community Development regarding tax credits, etc. However, funding continues to be the primary issue. The CHDC is discussing approaching Kathy Anderson of the Walden Woods Project regarding fund raising. 	
<p>Jeff Collins – Recreation Department</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No updates this month. <p>Carlene Hempel – Bruce Freeman Rail Trail</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BFRT Advisory Committee member, Kent Carlson of 21 Pine Street provided an update for the WCAC. Kent first reminded the Committee that a blog has been developed to provide the public with periodic updates on the BFRT progress. The blog can be accessed here: http://www.acton-ma.gov/Blog.aspx?CID=10 <p>Phase IIA – Rail and ties have now been removed. Phase IIB – 25% design is to be completed this spring. Phase IIC – 100% design is to be submitted in January, 2016. Screening and signage is required to discourage tunnel use and control environmental impacts. \$125k is expected to be obtained to complete the design for Phases IIB and IIC. A BFRT status presentation is scheduled for February 23, 2016 at the Harvey Wheeler Community Center in West Concord.</p> <p>Additional Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A list of possible music venues in West Concord needs to be prepared and submitted to the Concord Chamber of Commerce to support their application for listing West Concord as a “Massachusetts Cultural Council Arts District”. <p>It was confirmed that the additional chairs have been added at Salt Box Kitchen.</p>	
<p>OLD BUSINESS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction of two new members: Peter DeRosa (not present) and Mike Nowicki. Assignment and changes to liaison responsibilities and WCAC officers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NRC and DPW liaison assigned to Jeff Collins; CHDC liaison assigned to Don Detweiler; Recreation Department liaison assigned to Kathryn Garcia; Planning Board liaison assigned to Mike Nowicki; Social Media coordinator (new role) assigned to Pete DeRosa. Upon a Motion duly made and Seconded, the Committee unanimously nominated Steve Irza to serve as WCAC Chair and Peter Baty as Clerk. <p>NEW BUSINESS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial discussions regarding potential themes for the next WCAC Open House, scheduled for April 28th. Possible themes suggested included Signage and Arts/Music. The topic is scheduled to be discussed further during February's meeting. The Rideout Public Forum is scheduled for Monday, Jan. 11 at 6:30 p.m. in the Town House Public Hearing Room. Kathryn Garcia and Jeff Collins both plan to attend and will report back at February's WCAC meeting. WCAC and the Planning Board will plan to schedule a joint meeting during the first week in March, 2016. 	<p>Old Business</p> <p>New Business</p>

PUBLIC COMMENT		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kent Carlson of 21 Pine Street reported that "No Parking" signs have now been posted along sections of Pine Street without input or notification of the residents. In addition, 3 Hour parking signs have been posted on Derby Street. Jeff Collins indicated that he would reach out to Concord Police Officer Richard Hodgson to get a status update on the new signage. 		Public Comment
NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 3, 2016.		Next meeting
ADJOURNMENT		Adjournment
On a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously voted to adjourn the Open Session and to conclude business for the evening at 9:04 PM.		
Respectfully submitted,		
Peter Baty		
Approved: Feb. 3, 2016.		